

WEISBERG 2/9 HC

(WITH GARRISON)

(NE) (DA)

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--AUTHOR HAROLD WEISBERG FRIDAY DESCRIBED AS ABSURD AN ALLEGATION THAT HE CONSPIRED WITH THE NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO PREJUDICE JURORS IN THE TRIAL OF NEW ORLEANS BUSINESS LEADER CLAY SHAW.

WEISBERG HAS WRITTEN SEVERAL BOOKS CRITICAL OF THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT ON THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON HAS ALSO CRITICIZED THE REPORT, AND IS CONDUCTING HIS OWN INVESTIGATION.

THE ALLEGATION WAS CONTAINED IN A MOTION FOR A CHANGE OF VENUE FILED THIS WEEK BY ATTORNEYS FOR NEW ORLEANS CIVIC LEADER CLAY SHAW, WHOM GARRISON ACCUSES OF PLOTTING THE ASSASSINATION. SHAW IS AWAITING TRIAL IN NEW ORLEANS.

WEISBERG, IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR A SERIES OF SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, SAID HE HAD NEVER SPOKEN WITH GARRISON UNTIL AFTER COMPLETION OF HIS MOST RECENT BOOK.